

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-11, 13-17, 18-29 and 31-37 are pending. Claims 12, 18 and 30 are cancelled herein. Claims 1-11, 12-17 and 19-29 are amended herein. New claims 31-37 are added herein. This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings of claims, in the application.

### LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) A bi-phasic culture ~~medium including medium,~~  
comprising:  
a solid phase containing an egg slope or agar slope; and  
a liquid phase including a serum and a peptone.
2. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The medium ~~according to~~ of claim 1, wherein the solid phase is an egg slope.
3. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The medium ~~according to claim 1 or 2~~ of claim 1, wherein the serum is horse serum or rabbit serum.
4. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The medium ~~according to any one of claims 1 to 3 of~~  
claim 1, wherein the peptone is peptone or bactopectone.
5. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The medium ~~according to any one of claims 1 to 4 of~~  
claim 1, wherein the liquid phase includes a phosphate buffered saline having a pH of from about 6.8 to about 7.8.
6. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The medium ~~according to~~ of claim 5 containing up to about 98vol% phosphate buffered saline in the liquid phase.
7. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The medium ~~according to any one of claims 1 to 6 of~~  
claim 1, wherein the liquid phase contains about 1 to about 15 vol% of serum.
8. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The medium ~~according to any one of claims 1 to 7 of~~  
claim 1, wherein the peptone is an about 1 to about 40 w/w% bactopectone solution.
9. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The medium ~~according to any one of claims 1 to 8 of~~  
claim 1, wherein the liquid phase contains about 1 to about 15 vol% of the peptone.
10. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The medium ~~according to any one of claims 1 to 9 of~~  
claim 1, further including an antibiotic.
11. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The medium ~~according to~~ of claim 8 10, wherein the antibiotic is selected from the group consisting of erythromycin, penicillin, streptomycin, clindamycin, cephalexin, vancomycin and rifampicin.
12. (Cancelled).

13. (Currently amended) A ~~kit including kit, comprising:~~  
a container containing the medium ~~according to any one of the preceding claims of~~  
~~claim 1; and together with~~  
a container containing rice starch.
14. (Currently amended) A ~~The~~ kit ~~according to~~ of claim 13 which is contained in a compartmentalized specimen bag.
15. (Currently amended) A ~~The~~ kit ~~according to claim 13 or 14~~ of claim 13, further including a utensil for transferring a specimen into the container containing the medium.
16. (Currently amended) A ~~The~~ kit ~~according to any one of claims 13 to 15~~ of claim 13 including an additional container for containing a specimen.
17. (Currently amended) A ~~The~~ kit ~~according to any one of claims 13 to 16~~ of claim 13, wherein the container containing rice starch is a sachet.
18. (Cancelled).
19. (Currently amended) A method of detecting the presence of protozoa in a specimen, ~~said~~ the method including:  
adding to the medium ~~according to any one of claims 1 to 12~~ of claim 1, ~~said the~~  
specimen, rice starch and where necessary, an ~~antibiotic~~, antibiotic;  
allowing the medium to incubate for a time period so as to cultivate ~~protozoa~~,  
protozoa; and  
examining at least a portion of the incubated medium to detect the presence of  
protozoa.
20. (Currently amended) A method of detecting protozoa in faecal matter, ~~said~~  
~~method including comprising:~~  
adding to the medium ~~according to any one of claims 1 to 12~~ of claim 1 faecal matter,  
rice starch and where necessary, an ~~antibiotic~~, antibiotic;  
allowing the medium to incubate for a time period so as to cultivate intestinal  
~~protozoa~~, protozoa; and  
examining at least a portion of the incubated medium to detect the presence of ~~said~~  
the protozoa.
21. (Currently amended) A ~~The~~ method ~~according to claim~~ of 19 ~~or 20~~, wherein the  
protozoa detected is one or more of *Dientamoeba fragilis*, *Blastocystis hominis*, *E.*  
*histolytica/dispar*, *Entamoeba* or *Iodamoeba*, *Iodamoeba butschlii*, *Endolimax nana*,  
*Entamoeba coli*, or *Entamoeba hartmanni*.

22. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The method according to claim of claim 21 wherein the protozoa detected is *Dientamoeba fragilis*.

23. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The method according to any one of claims 19 to 22 of claim 19, wherein the medium is incubated for a period of up to about 4 days.

24. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The method according to any one of claims 19 to 23 of claim 19, wherein the medium is incubated for up to about 48 hours.

25. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The method according to any one of claims 19 to 23 of claim 19, wherein additional antibiotic and/or rice starch are added after about 24 hours of incubation.

26. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The method according to any one of claims 19 to 25 of claim 19, wherein the medium is incubated at a temperature in the range of 36°C to 38°C. ~~36°C to 38°C.~~

27. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The method according to any one of claims 19 to 26 of claim 19, wherein the portion of the incubated medium is examined microscopically.

28. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The method according to any one of claims 19 to 27 of claim 19, wherein the antibiotic is erythromycin.

29. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The method according to any one of claims 19 to 28 of claim 19, wherein the portion is or includes sediment.

30. (Cancelled).

31. (New) The method of claim 20, wherein the protozoa detected is one or more of *Dientamoeba fragilis*, *Blastocystis hominis*, *E. histolytica/dispar*, *Entamoeba* or *Iodamoeba*, *Iodamoeba butschlii*, *Endolimax nana*, *Entamoeba coli*, or *Entamoeba hartmanni*.

32. (New) The method of claim 20, wherein the medium is incubated for a period of up to about 4 days.

33. (New) The method of claim 20, wherein additional antibiotic and/or rice starch are added after about 24 hours of incubation.

34. (New) The method of claim 20, wherein the medium is incubated at a temperature in the range of 36°C to 38°C.

35. (New) The method of claim 20, wherein the portion of the incubated medium is examined microscopically.

36. (New) The method of claim 20, wherein the antibiotic is erythromycin.

37. (New) The method of claim 20, wherein the portion is or includes sediment.